Gouverneur Sept 5th 1830

I cannot realize that two hundred miles separate me from my dear, dear mother and should I follow my present inclination, a few setting suns, and I should again be in her embrace — But I believe I have reason to trust that I have followed the leadings of divine providence in my visiting my dear friends; and the reasons to be observed for tarrying with them, I should feel that I was acting inconsistently to return. I find the cord of filial affection closely entwines about my heart, and it is not without a struggle that I continue here — There is a gloom which hovers around me when I think that I cannot see my dear friends and every home for several months — but it is not my intention on to make myself and those about me unhappy by indulging those foolish feelings — my situation is apparently very pleasant, every outward circumstance seems combined to render me happy — our home is very pleasantly situated — my dear sisters, my brother is acquainted with them (the same) and I trust feel towards me (though I am not yet so much acquainted) as (some of) (when) I have formed several acquaintances which highly please — in the number I have found one good woman, whom I think I shall miss when I ardently long to see my dear mother — My teacher I have seen — think I shall be pleased with him — My religious privileges I think will surpass what I have ever before enjoyed — There is at present an unusual seriousness and quite a degree of engagedness manifested by christians and a few indulging recent hope thus you see my dear mother that I am in a situation to improve, not only in this world's useful knowledge — but also to grow in grace, and increase in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Oh that I might be blessed with a disposition to improve my privileges. I trust I shall daily be carried in the arms of my dear faith by my dear mother to the feet of Jesus and thereby gain, not only a supply of happiness and submission to his will, but also a capacity to be useful to my fellow creatures — We had a very prosperous, and tolerably pleasant journey — arrived safe on friday 3 o'clock P.M. with much less fatigue than I anticipated — found dear brother B. and him preach twice — spent five days with them — My dear mother you know how much I shall think of you — but "the Lord will provide." I hope he will be infinitely more than sons or daughters to my beloved Parents even here in this world — and a eternal full of joy when partings, sin and sorrow will be unknown

there is much more I desire to write but Father will be able answer all inquiries — — I feel a degree of satisfaction in the ~~that~~ thought of her being with you — I feel the greatest confidence that it will be her aim to render your life happy and comfortable and I fondly flatter myself that she will be successful — — —

Adieu my dear mother,

Much love to Pa and all enquiring friends — —

your aff daughter
Maria

Mrs Mary P Appleton
Ipswich
Mass

2